

7 FEB 1968

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Copy 6 of 12

6 February 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy for Operations, OSA

SUBJECT: Item in Critique for OXCART Mission No. BX 6847

1. Reference is made to paragraph 9c. of the Critique for OXCART Mission Number BX 6847 [redacted] dated 5 February 1968.

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2. Paragraph 9c. under Outstanding Actions Required states "Review 'F' stop settings to be used when ground is snow covered."

3. SSD/R&D/OSA states the following:

a. The exposure tables and instructions to handle targets with or without snow cover are adequate.

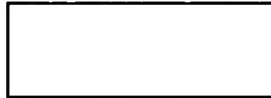
b. To assure correct exposure under snow covered conditions, personnel charged with determining exposure settings must know as accurately as possible to what degree the areas to be photographed are influenced by snow. For example, no snow, light, heavy; scattered or totally covered?

4. If accurate forecasts cannot be given, then accurate exposures cannot be established for a mission. For example, if snow is forecast in a target area and a camera setting is made on that basis but in fact there is no snow or the snowfall was so light as not to cover the area in question, it is highly probable we would be from 2/3 to 1 full stop underexposed and we would lose some imagery. In a converse situation, for example, no snow predicted but in fact the target areas are snow covered and exposure settings were made on the basis of no snow, we could have a situation where we would be 2/3 to 1 full stop overexposed. Under these conditions we would lose detail in the highlights and in areas of low contrast or shadows. We could lose additional detail if this overexposed material was overdeveloped at a processing site.


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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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5. In summary:

a. We have the capability to predict what settings should be used if the target areas are snow covered - providing:

b. The weather personnel can predict the degree and extent of snow cover.

c. Camera exposure settings will be only as accurate as the basic data furnished to the personnel charged with establishing these settings.

SECRET


Sensor Systems Division
Special Activities

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SSD/R&D/OSA  :bjg (6 Feb 68)

Distribution:

- #1 - D/O/OSA
- #2 - D/SA
- #3 - D/M/OSA
- #4 - D/R&D/OSA
- #5 - OXC/O/OSA
- #6 - INTEL/O/OSA
- #7 - WEA/O/OSA
- #8 - COMMO/O/OSA
- #9 - ADP/O/OSA
- #10 - SSD/R&D/OSA
- #11 - SSD/R&D Chrono
- #12 - RB/OSA

HANDLE VIA 
CONTROL SYSTEM

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